ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A stream conversion apparatus 10 receives an MPEG2 transport stream as an input stream 21. To each packet contained in this stream, a time stamp assignment section 11 assigns the input time of that packet as a time stamp. A packet reduction section 12 deletes NULL packets which appear in the stream with a predetermined repetition pattern. Based on a proportions of the NULL packet in the stream, a time stamp replacement section 13 replaces the time stamp assigned to the packets which have not been deleted by the packet reduction section 12. The packets which have undergone the selective time stamp replacement are temporarily stored in the buffer 14, and outputted by the packet reading section 15 and the output section 16, such that each packet is outputted at a time indicated by the time stamp assigned to that packet.